

III. REMARKS

1. Claims 1-10 remain in the application. Claim 11 is new.
2. Claims 1, 4, and 7 have been amended to overcome the 35 USC 112, second paragraph rejections.
3. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-9 are patentable over the combination of Csipkes et al. (US 5,724,127, "Csipkes") in view of Palmquist et al. (US 5,179,419, "Palmquist") under 35 USC 103(a).

The combination of Csipkes and Palmquist fails to disclose or suggest a visual fault localization unit adapted for transmitting a visual light into the DUT that will emit from fault locations within the DUT or a connection thereto, for visually localizing faults, as recited by claim 1.

Csipkes discloses an apparatus for inspecting an end surface of a fiber optic. A scope is provided that directs a light beam from a light generator through a bulkhead to the surface of the fiber, where it is reflected back to a CCD (see Fig.7 and col.6, lines 39-46 through col.7 lines 49-50). Thus, Csipkes discloses reflecting light from an end surface of the fiber optic as opposed to transmitting a visual light into the DUT. In addition, Csipkes has nothing related to light emitting from fault locations within the DUT.

Palmquist also discloses detecting defects at an end surface of an optical fiber. Images of the end surface are acquired at each of three focal positions by directing and focussing a light beam onto the end surface. The images are processed to detect

cracks, scratches, chips, and pits in the end surface. (see Fig.3 and the abstract). Palmquist has no disclosure related to transmitting a visual light into the DUT. Palmquist also fails to disclose or suggest light emitting from fault locations within the DUT.

Therefore the combination of Csipkes and Palmquist fails to disclose or suggest all the features of claim 1. For these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1 and dependent claims 2-9 are patentable over the cited combination.

4. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 10 is patentable over the combination of Csipkes and Palmquist in view of Robichaud (US 4,289,398, under 35 USC 103(a)).

Claim 10 depends from claim 1.

The combination of Cspikes, Palmquist and Robichaud fails to disclose or suggest a visual fault localization unit adapted for transmitting a visual light into the DUT that will emit from fault locations within the DUT or a connection thereto, for visually localizing faults, as recited by claim 1.

Robichaud at least fails to disclose or suggest light that will emit from fault locations within the DUT or a connection thereto, for visually localizing faults, as recited by claim 1.

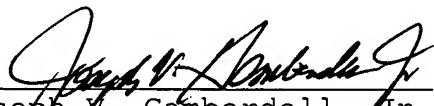
5. Claim 11 is new and recites that the visual fault localization unit of claim 1 includes a red light source, as previously recited by claim 7.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are

clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,


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